

## Over 100 Signed The Pledge

Enthusiastic Meeting Held by  
Vinita Business Men Last  
Night at the Commercial  
Club Rooms.

The meeting at the Commercial club rooms last evening was the greatest in the history of the club. According to notice and an agreement made yesterday, nearly every business and professional man in the city was present, and the hall was packed as never before. Word had been passed around that a surprise was to be sprung on the meeting, and all were anxious to know what it would be. Accordingly the routine work of the club was hurriedly passed over and no time lost.

President Seymour Riddle made a few remarks concerning the history of the Club, and gladly welcomed the many visitors present.

A motion prevailed extending to the visiting brethren all the rights and privileges of the meeting for the evening.

The question of making preparations to greet the president and visitors to our city next Wednesday was discussed at some length, and resulted in a motion that the chair appoint committees for that purpose. The comments upon this subject, some of which will be given elsewhere, caused considerable jesting, and when the question was disposed of the crowd was in the best of spirits and ready for the important questions which were to follow.

President Riddle then arose, and in his easy, graceful, pleasant and optimistic manner and speech, told the audience of the import of the meeting. He believed in the future of Vinita, in the value and benefits to be derived through the Commercial club; in the intelligence of our people and ability of our business and professional men. He told the audience why he and all of us had cast our fortunes here and staked our all upon the future prospects of this country. It was at this time when every soul was swelling with enthusiasm and local pride that he presented the following twenty resolutions, afterwards called "The Pledge," which he read and asked that they be signed with pen and ink by at least one hundred business men of the town at some future time. But the crowd said "We'll sign them now," and a question put by the chair asking all those who desired to sign them now resulted in every man rising to his feet. "I g-d, we'll sign them, then," said Riddle, and the work of signing began.

The president then announced to the club that more than one hundred men had signed the pledge to promote the twenty propositions set out, and reminded them that a less number of men had laid bare the accumulated wrongs of centuries and brought about the French revolution. That a fewer number of men conceived the original idea of the concentration of the German provinces, and founded the German empire. That a fewer number of men met at Philadelphia in 1776 and founded the great Republic.

Speeches were then made by P. L. Soper, Edgar Smith, Judge Gill, Rev. Washburn, J. W. Orr, Dr. Fortner, the tenor of which are treated editorially in this paper. They were all to the point, and abounding in wit, humor and good sense.

It was during the remarks made by Edgar Smith that a motion was made that everyone who had signed the pledge be declared a member of the club. The motion was unanimously carried amid laughter and applause.

A representative of the Kansas City Journal was present and made an explanation to the club why the "Statehood Edition" of the Journal had not been published, and assuring them that it would be soon ready for the press. The meeting then adjourned.

It was suggested that the committee buy enough bunting to cover the "Katy depot."

The railroad company will be requested to have the train stop so that the rear platform of the train will be in the center of the street.

Everybody is requested to decorate and display the national colors as much as possible.

It was suggested that the president be presented with a jar of artesian water—joke.

It was unanimously voted that all business houses be closed between the hours of 9 and 10 o'clock next Wednesday to give everyone an opportunity to see the president.

### THE PLEDGE.

We, the undersigned citizens of Vinita, believing in the future possibilities of this city, and appreciating the need of enterprising efforts on behalf of its citizens, hereby pledge each other to undertake the accomplishment of the following work and development which we believe will result in immediate good to this city and community:

1. The construction of the Vinita & Northwestern railroad.
2. The establishment of a brick and tile factory.
3. The establishment of a flouring mill.
4. The establishment of a planing mill.
5. The completion of the city sewer and surface drainage for the city.
6. The paving of the business streets of the city.
7. The erection of a city hall with fire department accommodations.
8. Securing a gas pipe line from the present gas fields near the Osage line.
9. The development of the Timber Hill coal fields.
10. Encouragement to the proposed new hospital and sanitarium.
11. A cold storage plant.
12. Increased school facilities.
13. Securing as large amount as possible of the appropriation of congress for country district schools and the establishment of the same.
14. A thorough examination of the iron beds at Gwendale and an authoritative report showing whether or not iron may be found in paying quantities, and if the coal within our reach will coke and can be made available for smelting purposes.
15. A thorough examination of the zinc and lead proposition immediately east of the city.
16. The location of the best shale beds and their practical utility.
17. The location of the best argillite beds and their practical utility.
18. Co-operation with the Southwestern Colonization association.
19. A concerted movement giving the strongest encouragement to immigration and for investment of foreign capital.
20. The erection of a union passenger station or new separate stations for each railroad.

nity to see the president.

President Riddle says he will have "The Pledge," together with the signatures, photographed and framed at his own expense and hung up in the Commercial club rooms.

Committees on all the twenty propositions of "The Pledge" will be appointed at the next meeting.

#### THAT CHILLY FEELING.

In Vinita town, of great renown,  
There's many a puppy and many a clown  
Compose our population, sir;  
Of white or black, we do not lack  
Within the corporation, sir.

As a general rule, the greatest fool,  
We mean that's been the least at school,  
Is put to the highest place here;  
This is the truth, the smallest youth  
Can tell it is the case here.

If moving round, a man be found  
With eyes cast meekly on the ground,  
It is Vinita's mayor, sir;  
But 'twill be seen, he's not so green,  
He only makes believe, sir.

Our lawyers, true, as yet are few;  
I'm told there's only twenty-two;  
They're a lean and hungry set, sir;  
I pity the purse of any "cuss"  
If hold on him they get, sir.

Our preachers, whew! unhappy crew!  
They always find enough to do  
To get their daily bread, here;  
I'm bound to say, if long they stay,  
We'll surely find them dead, here.

Now, ministers of every creed  
Require the most substantial feed,  
For Satan's throne is strong, here;  
And they must fight with all their might,  
For Satan has been long, here.

If they his strongest castles storm,  
They'll find the devils in human form,  
The bitterest foe to fight, here;  
They're always strong to shield a wrong,  
But never for the right, here.

There are some men of whom I ken,  
With reverence let me name them then,  
They are the Commercial club, sir;  
They're not so chilly and depressed,  
As some of us at first had guessed.

And what is more, in every store,  
We find clerks numbered by the score,  
That's bound their goods to sell us, here;  
Who'll spare no pains to get your change,  
And many a lie will tell you, here.

And others too, more numerous far,  
Too often seen behind the bar,  
Encouraging evil-venders, here;  
At every breath they're drinking death,  
Fed to them by bootleggers here.

Our papers stand just number one,  
In point of sense, in point of fun,  
The best that's in the country, sir;  
He is no saint, who says they "ain't,"  
It's only "cause he's "chilly," sir.

A Chattanooga Druggists' Statement  
Robt. J. Mills, Proprietor of the  
Read House Drug store of Chattanooga  
Tenn. writes "There is more merit in  
Foley's Honey and Tar than in any  
other cough syrup. The calls for it  
multiply wonderfully and we sell more  
of it than all other cough syrups com-  
bined. Sold by Peoples drug store dw

#### CLOSES HIS WORK.

Rev. Randolph Cook Will Preach  
His Last Sermon in Vinita  
Tomorrow.



RANDOLPH COOK.

THIRTY-TWO MONTHS' WORK.	
Number of pastoral visits	2,017
Additions to church (all sources)	230
Funerals conducted	20
Weddings solemnized	16
Sermons and addresses delivered	379
Subscriptions for paper taken	91
Papers, cards, tracts distributed free	42,600
Money raised for all purposes	\$3,459 97
Average per month for 32 months	107 98

Rev. Randolph Cook, who for nearly three years has been pastor of the Christian church, will preach his closing sermons tomorrow. The above is a summary of the work accomplished, which is a credit to both pastor and church. Rev. Cook has been in the city longer than any of the other resident pastors and has made many substantial friends who will regret his departure. His record here is an indication of the success which is sure to follow him elsewhere. As member and president of the Christian Missionary Board and as organizer and president of the Christian Ministers' Association, his work has been felt all over the surrounding country, and any congregation which may secure his services will do well.

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Calf, Blucher Cut, Milita-  
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extension sole.. \$3.50  
Tan Shoe, same \$3.50  
as above.....

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